

Amendments to the Claims:

1-26. (cancelled)

27. (currently amended) An in-process control method in a production run of an on-going packaging process for pharmaceutical formulations to test the leaktightness of a sealed container that holds a pharmaceutical active substance formulation in a chamber, the method comprising the steps of: a) acting upon the sealed container with a gas such that any increase of the gas inside the chamber can be analyzed; b) removing a sample from the chamber; and c) analyzing the sample for the presence of the gas The method according to claim 21, wherein the sealed container is a sealed, two-layer, bottle-like container with a rigid outer shell and an inner container mechanically attached to the outer shell only at certain points and able to collapse in on itself relative to the outer container.

28. (currently amended) The method according to claim 27, wherein the sealed, two-layer, bottle-like container has been produced by a coextrusion process.

29. (previously presented) The method according to claim 27, wherein the rigid outer shell consists of polypropylene, and the inner container consists of polyethylene.

30-32. (cancelled)

33. (currently amended) The method according to claim ~~27~~ 21, wherein the step of acting upon the sealed container with the gas is carried out at a pressure difference between the chamber and the gas of 0.1 to 10 bar.

34. (previously presented) The method according to claim 33, wherein the pressure difference is between 0.5 to 5 bar.

35. (previously presented) The method according to claim 34, wherein the pressure difference is between 1 and 2 bar.

36. (currently amended) The method according to claim 27 ~~24~~, wherein the gas is acted upon the sealed container at a pressure difference of about zero between the chamber and the gas by permeation effects, diffusion, or permeation effects and diffusion.

37. (currently amended) The method according to claim 27 ~~24~~, wherein the gas is selected from the group consisting of: hydrogen, water vapor, noble gases, carbon dioxide, nitrogen, carbon monoxide, carbon-sulfur gases, sulfur dioxide, hydrogen sulfur, hydrocarbons, fluorohydrocarbons, chlorofluorohydrocarbons, and mixtures thereof.

38. (previously presented) The method according to claim 37, wherein the gas is helium.

39. (currently amended) The method according to claim 27 ~~24~~, wherein the steps of opening the sealed container and removal of the gas sample are carried out in a single step.

40. (currently amended) The method according to claim 27 24, carried out at a temperature of 0°C to 50°C.

41. (new) The method according to claim 27, wherein the inner container comprises a flange, and wherein the rigid outer shell is a metal or plastic sleeve.

42. (new) The method according to claim 41, wherein the inner container comprises a metal foil, a plastic film, or a plastic-coated metal foil.